

## House Republican Press Release

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### Stone Votes Emergency Communications Funds for Fairfield



State Rep. Jack Stone, R-134<sup>th</sup>, ranking member of the legislature's Public Safety and Security Committee, has cosponsored and voted legislation to provide more funds to towns such as Fairfield for 9-1-1 emergency telecommunications centers.

The bill, SB1276, now goes to Gov. M. Jodi Rell to be signed into law.

"This is good news for Fairfield," said Rep. Stone. "Basically, this legislation doubles the amount that Fairfield will receive to support the emergency dispatch center for 9-1-1 calls. The bill should take effect July 1 and begin to provide additional funds shortly thereafter."

Under the legislation, Fairfield and 13 other towns with a population of more than 40,000 people will see 9-1-1 funds double from 15 cents per capita to 30 cents per capita.

Previously, only towns with a population of 70,000 or more were entitled to the enhanced level of subsidies. The funding for the program comes from a small surcharge on all monthly telephone bills.

The funds cover new answering equipment, emergency call centers, training, office and other expenses.

An emergency 9-1-1 commission recommended the legislation to increase the number of towns eligible for the enhanced subsidies and increase funding for the program.

*Rep. Stone serves the 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in the state House of Representatives.*